

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please amend the Drawings as indicated in red ink on the "Replacement Sheets" to revise FIG. 2 and FIG. 3.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments, and the following remarks.

The amendments to this patent application are as follows.

On Page 2 of the Office Action, the Patent Examiner had objected to the drawings as failing to show structure recited in claim 9, wherein it states that there is a surface profiling which comprises "small teeth configured as barbs."

Therefore, the Applicants are enclosing an Amendment to the Drawings to support Claim 9. Also enclosed is an Amendment to the Specification to describe the structure that is being added to the drawings in support of claim 9.

Hence, in FIG. 2 structural elements (30) are being added to illustrate the small teeth configured as barbs and in FIG. 3 structural elements (32) and (34) are being added to illustrate the small teeth configured as barbs. These changes to the drawings are shown in red ink on the "Replacement Sheets" for FIGS. 2 and 3.

Also the Specification is being amended on Page 9 below the paragraph thereon in order to add terminology to describe structural elements 30, 32, and 34. Support for this added terminology is found in claims 8 and 9 as originally filed.

On Page 3 of the Office Action, the Patent Examiner objected to Claims 1, 3, 6, and 8 because of the following informalities: some claims recite the open ended clauses: "can be accommodated" (claim 1), "can be inserted" (claim 3), and "can be brought" (claim 8), which render the scope of the claims not being clearly defined. All elements of the structure should be positively set forth in the claims without the use of the open ended clauses.

In response to these objections, in claim 1, "can be" was changed to "are" accommodated; in claim 3, "can be" was cancelled before "inserted;" in claim 8, "can be" was changed to "are" brought.

There was another objection, because Claim 3 further recites the clause "which part has at least one engagement." It is not clear what part is being referred to, either the "shaft part" or the "plug-in shaft."

In response to this objection, "shaft part" was inserted before "at least one engagement" in claim 3.

Also there was an objection to claim 3 which recites the limitations: "the projecting first connection element," which lacks antecedent basis.

In response to this objection, "projecting" was changed to "at least one" in claim 3.

Also there were objections because claims 6 and 8 recite the limitations: "shaft segments," which lacks antecedent basis. Evidently said "shaft segments" should be the "contact segments," and therefore, have been interpreted as the "contact segments" for the art rejection. Appropriate correction is required.

In response to these objections, "shaft segments" were changed to "associated contact segment" in claims 6 and 8.

For all the reasons set forth above, the Drawings, the Specification, and all the claims are firmly believed to be in complete compliance with all the formal requirements for the granting of a patent. Withdrawal of these objections is respectfully requested.

On Page 3 of the Office Action, the Patent Examiner rejected claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by *U.S. Patent No. 4,224,592* to *Urani et al.*

The present invention is directed to a fuse insert having a flat insulating body and a pair of contacts projecting out of the insulating body, whose contact segments, which are accommodated in accommodations of the insulating body, are connected with one another by way of a fusible conductor, wherein at least one of the accommodations (2, 3) as well as the contact segment (14, 15) assigned to it have connection elements (6, 7, 17, 18) of a positive-lock connection that correspond to one another; and wherein each first connection element (6, 7) is an elevation that projects into a plug-in shaft (4, 5), in the form of a tongue (8, 9) that matches a longitudinal groove as an engagement (17, 18).

In response to this prior art rejection, claim 5 was cancelled and the subject matter thereof was included within independent claim 1. Thus, the structural elements set forth in dependent claim 5 are included whereby a tongue and groove fitting provides the engagement for the present invention. By claiming all of this structure now recited in claim 1, it is believed that the present invention distinguishes over the teachings in *Urani et al.* Specifically in the paragraph bridging

columns 4 and 5 of *Urani et al* there is the casing (21). Also, the teachings in column 5, lines 54 to 61 of *Urani et al*, are that the slot or groove (69) receives the sides of the conductive legs (27) and (28). It is believed that the present invention distinguishes over this prior art teaching due to the claimed connection element (6,7). Also, there is no teaching in *Urani et al* of the claimed surface profiling comprising small teeth configured as barbs.

For all the reasons set forth above, the prior art reference fails to provide an identical disclosure of the claimed invention. Hence, the present invention is not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. 102, but is patentable under 35 U.S.C. 103 over the prior art applied by the Patent Examiner.

Withdrawal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested. A prompt notification of allowance is respectfully

requested.

Respectfully submitted,
SCHULTE ET AL - 3 (PCT)



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Enclosures: 1. Copy of Petition of 1 Month Extension of Time
2. Replacement Sheets for Drawings FIG. 2 and
FIG. 3

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on October 8, 2008.



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